

AGED FATHER PRAYS FOR VENGEANCE ON GIRL'S BETRAYER AND MURDERER

Nationwide Search Begins for Student Under Suspicion

Special to The GRAPHIC
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, WIS., Dec. 7.—As authorities renewed the search for Erdman Olson, Gale College student who was held responsible by a coroner's jury for the death of Clara Dorothy Olson, his 22-year-old sweetheart, the girl's parents today sorrowfully wended their way to a little cemetery here where the body was to be buried.

Through the night old Chris Olson had prayed over the body of his daughter, asking vengeance for the man who betrayed her and murdered her. And, in tears, he solemnly requested mercy for her soul.

Dreamed of Girl's Death

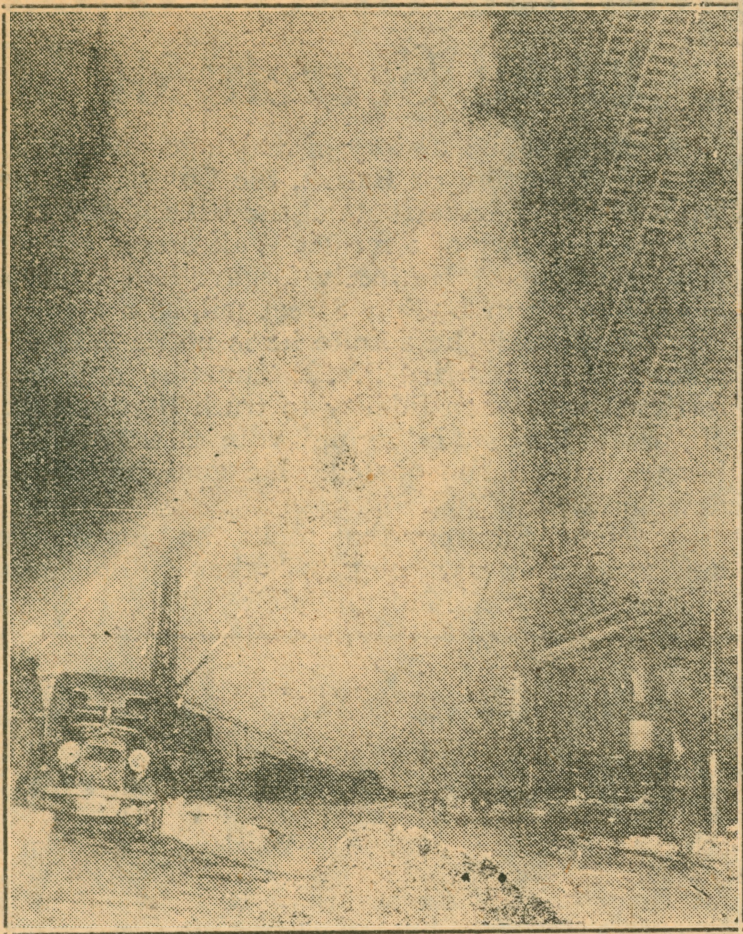
It was old Chris's dream of seeing his daughter's body buried in a nearby hillock that resulted in the discovery that the girl had been murdered. It was old Chris's halting testimony before a coroner's jury late last night that was responsible for the verdict that held 18-year-old Erdman Olson to be the slayer of his daughter.

But old Chris was not satisfied. In his prayers, as in his dreams, he still lives only to see his daughter avenged before the eyes of those that knew her.

Erdman has been missing since September 27. His father, Albert Olson, a well-to-do farmer, told the coroner's jury that he had not seen the boy since September 12 and has not received any communication from him.

Nevertheless, Albert Olson is

Fire Fails to Scare Hello Girls



A FIRE AT 21 WALKER ST., adjoining the American Telephone and Telegraph Company's twenty-four-story building, in which hundreds of telephone operators were working, failed to disturb them. They remained at their posts, although firemen had some difficulty in checking the fire because of the cold weather. (Photo Graphic.)

Phone Girls Brave Fire Next Door to Exchange

Hundreds of telephone operators calmly remained at their posts in the twenty-four-story building of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company opposite a six-story loft building at 21 Walker St., which had caught fire, last night.

The two families are not related and Chris, having had his first sight of the father of the boy who he believes was the murderer of his daughter, was not altogether at his ease. He was startled by the flash-lights of the photographers, the booming questions which were put to him, the stern eyes of Albert Olson.

Confusedly, the old man bent his head and started to stammer out his story. A note had been found in the bosom of the dead girl's dress, purporting to come from Erdman Olson and in it, the writer had made arrangements for Clara to meet him to get married, old Chris testified. His daughter, he said, was to become

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Chaplin Closes His Studios To Fight for Children

Special to The GRAPHIC.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., Dec. 7.—The gates are locked and all lights out at the Chaplin studios. Charlie Chaplin today stopped all work on his forthcoming picture, gave all hands an indefinite vacation, called his lawyers to council, decreed that no stockings would be hung up in his home in anticipation of the coming of Santa Claus, and began his legal battle with his child wife to regain possession of his two children.

It is estimated that the shutting down of his studio is costing him \$15,000, and if the studios remain closed a month that his loss will be \$500,000.

Chaplin is plainly worried. The lines of his lips are turned down-

Fire Escape Romeo Calls "Yoo-hoo!" But He's an Owl

"I hear you calling, yoo-hoo!" Like Al Jolson in his famous song, Mrs. Carrie Haviland, in her second-floor bedroom at 710 11th Ave., heard somebody calling "yoo-hoo" at her window early this morning.

Suspecting a fire-escape Romeo or an abandoned babe, she flung open the window and found—a big brown owl, blinking blindly at the lighted room.

She took the owl to West 47th Street police station, where it "yoo-hooed" at Lieut. John Collins until dawn. Today it will be sent to Bronx Park Zoo, its strange advent into Manhattan's west side forever secreted behind a mocking "yoo-hoo."



Charlie Chaplin Lita Grey Chaplin

ward today. "A man with an aching heart is in no mood for comedy," was all he would say.

Wife Is Adamant

Mrs. Chaplin, from the haven of her grandfather's home, declared that it was unthinkable that she would permit Chaplin to have one of the boys.

"I will keep them both," she said. "I have not as yet decided whether I will seek a divorce or a separation, but there will be no reconciliation."

Her attorney says she will ask for "heart balm" of \$1,000,000.

From an intimate of Chaplin it was learned that he will battle to the highest court in the land to obtain possession of his children and failing in that threats "to leave America flat," and return to England where he will make his pictures.

And meantime Douglas Fairbanks and Mary Pickford and Will Hays, and even "Bull" Montana are trying to "patch things up."

ALL HUDSON NAVIGATION HALTED BY COLD WAVE

The closing of navigation on the Hudson River as a result of the cold wave has been announced by C. S. Sims, president of the Hudson River Navigation Corporation, operating the night boats between New York and Albany-Troy.

This brings to a close a highly successful season for the corporation—the first under the direction of President Sims.

Salm Awaits Suit And Takes Slam At Wife, Millicent

Asserting that he married the daughter of Col. H. H. Rogers, oil millionaire, only for love, Count Salm eagerly awaited the calling to trial of his suit tomorrow for separation against his wife, Millicent, which begins tomorrow.

Countess Salm's lawyers still hope to prevent an open airing of the squabbles of the pair. They contend that the count is, as a matter of fact, not privileged to bring suit in an American court, being an Austrian, but it is not thought Justice Levy will permit any further delays.

The count made affidavit that all the money he has had from the Rogers so far was \$3,000, which was given him by his bride so that he would not be compelled to support her on salary as a movie actor.

As more than substantial security, the countess has his "\$30,000,000 worth of family gems," the count declares.

The count will make no fight at present for custody of the child of the couple, little Peter.

Somerville Balks at Bill Of \$100,000 for Hall Trial

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Dec. 7.—The high cost of murder trials, which is in keeping with the steadily soaring prices of other popular amusements, is an item which threatens to cause an angry row on the Board of Freeholders here when it meets again on Friday, unless in the mean time some kind friend advances at least \$50,000 to cover the cost of the famous Hall-Mills case, just closed.

The board met today and decided to forget its worries until the Friday morning session. But the board was in session long enough to convey the idea that a storm of protest is in the offing, ready to burst at the opportune moment.

One of the items on the Hall-Mills expense account is a little taxi

bill of \$1,500, which State Senator Alexander Simpson feels he should collect for transportation by car, paying the chauffeur and other charges connected with operation of a high-priced vehicle.

Clarence I. Smalley, member of

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Curfew Law Not to Spoil New Year's Celebrating

Mayor Jimmie Walker's curfew ordinance, which is supposed to make the little night clubs along the Great White Way behave—after 3 o'clock in the morning—will be well on its way toward becoming a law today.

Passage of the measure by the Board of Aldermen has been assured even in the face of strong opposition, for Judge Olvany, Tammany chieftain, has passed the word to rebellious members of the Board of Aldermen, ordering them to vote for the measure.

The ordinance will not dampen or curtail New Year's Eve festivities, however, for its enforcement is to be held up until January 2, so Broadway can greet 1927 right up to the cold gray dawn in its usual custom.

Blaze Routs Mourners

A wake over the body of Mrs. Henrietta Smith, 98, was disturbed and sixteen families were routed when fire broke out early today in a four-story brick tenement at 254 West 129th St.

Firemen rescued the coffin in which Mrs. Smith's body rested. Other firemen assisted Charles Hurley, his wife and baby, Gloria, to safety. Members of other families clambered down fire escapes as best they could and were taken care of in neighboring apartments. The fire started in a woodbin in the basement.